

**Minutes of June 21, 2010 Meeting of
Tiverton Open Space and Land Preservation Commission
Essex Library, Highland Road**

Present: Ginger Lacy, Susan Anderson, Dick Bixby, Garry Plunkett, Phil Schuyler, and Martin Van Hof

Call to order: 7:10 By Ginger Lacy

June 17, 2010 minutes were approved as corrected.

Treasurer's report was approved as presented. It was noted that a \$1000 private donation was made to the Open Space Stewardship Fund. The purchase of supplies for signs and bridge repairs as well as payment for scheduled mowing was discussed.

Garry Plunkett recorded volunteer hours.

Susan Anderson presented an update to the town-owned properties database. There were questions about whether some of the properties are zoned Open Space. Susan noted how well the on-line information worked. Further discussion was tabled until the next meeting.

Terms expire June 30 for Garry Plunkett, Brian Janes, and Dick Bixby, who were encouraged by Ginger Lacy to turn in their re-appointment forms.

Garry Plunkett reported that approximately \$440 was spent for materials and labor to improve a right of way at the end of April Lane that allows town access to Fort Barton for maintenance purposes. Thanks to the Tiverton Rod and Gun Club for their assistance.

Plunkett also reported that Phil Schuyler, Martin Van Hof and he finished the repairs to the benches in the vicinity of the Fort Barton observation tower.

Phil Schuyler reported that we are waiting for a legislative grant to be approved in order to purchase a new Fort Barton flagpole.

Schuyler and Dick Bixby reported on the replacement of several crossties on bridges in Fort Barton Woods.

Martin Van Hof reported on the bi-annual walk around Fogland Beach and dunes by the joint stewardship committee. He reported that an engineering firm has been hired to do base-line documentation for the area. Two staff members from the firm attended the walk.

The board discussed the removal of several trees on the embankment opposite the town hall. Plunkett will discuss the project with the Town Tree Warden (John Manchester) to get an estimate for a line item request for the fiscal year 2012 TOSC budget.

Plunkett reported that he would be meeting with Hope Leeson from the RI Natural History Survey (RINHS) on June 28 to discuss possible TOSC projects for a program funded by a federal grant to manage invasive plants in forests. Plunkett also reported that, after a check by Jim Spears for ground-nesting bird activity (which there were none) Bill Hibbad was given permission to do the summer mowing for the meadow at Weetamoo.

Schuyler will attend a meeting with Roger Williams University Community Outreach personnel Tuesday morning for a site visit regarding projects for the August 30 RWU community service event, i.e. clearing brush around the Weetamoo East Road entrance and applying a new coat of stain on the observation tower at Fort Barton.

Susan reported that Ranger School and Fort Barton School sent more than 100 students to go on the Weetamoo Woods annual walk for second graders. After two postponements, Pocasset School was unable to find an available date in their calendar.

Meeting adjourned at 8:25 pm.

Next meeting will be July 19, 2010

Minutes by Martin Van Hof